VOL 35

THE CRISIS

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THE CRISIS

A Record of the Darker Races

W. E. BURGHARDT DU BOIS, *Editor* — PIERCE MCN. THOMPSON, *Business Manager*

Volume 35, *No.* 12 — *Whole No.* 218

Contents for December, 1928

	Page
COVER. "Berceuse". Drawing by Laura Wheeler Waring	
AS THE CROW FLIES	401
FRONTISPIECE. Photograph from Life, Posed by Maurice Hunter at the Renoir Studios	402
A NOVELTY IN BLUE. A Story by Julian Elihu Bagley. Decoration by Yolande Du Bois Cullen	403
A HOSPITAL'S PREJUDICE. N. A. A. C. P. BATTLE FRONT. Illustrated. H. J. S.	405
THE LITTLE PAGE. Illustrated. By Effie Lee Newsome	407
THE POET'S CORNER. Poems by a Nordic Poet, Edward Silvera, Laura Tanne, Henry Lee Moon, Don Gordon, Georgia Douglass Johnson	408
ALONG THE COLOR LINE. Illustrated	409
THE FAR HORIZON	415
AN APPEAL TO AMERICA	416
POSTSCRIPT. By W. E. B. Du Bois	417

Vivian Schuyler will draw the cover for the January issue of THE CRISIS. There will be a story and the announcement of our plans for the coming year. "Debit and Credit" of course, for which many persons look forward. The editor will make an analysis of the last election and its relation to the Solid South.

As the Crow Flies

THE circus is finished and the light spread by the Presidential campaign has been chiefly flashes of darkness.—The Negro has been stirred to political consciousness as never before. And for the most part has not known how to vote. This is fine. Doubt is the Mother of Reason.—In the strife for political freedom in the United States, no matter who loses, we win. Even the shame of two great parties, truckling and fishing for the Negro vote and unable to say openly what they are doing secretly, is a victory for democracy.—The German Republic is 10 years old. This, next to the Russion Revolution, is the greatest result of the World War.—You can hang a Dago, but it's mighty hard to strangle the Truth. This the murderers of Sacco and Vanzetti are gradually finding out.—Now that the General Electric has recognized Russia, the United States Government may be expected to hear its Master's voice and take similar action.—Silly notoriety pays in the United States because we have such large numbers of fools. A man with 3 legs, or a boy who steals a ride, or a woman who falls in the ocean, are famous for life. People who teach and write books and paint pictures have an excellent chance of starving.—The Zeppelin has come and gone and proven simply that it came and went.—It seems proven now that Einstein was right in declaring that space bends, and time stops.—The Dawes plan for German reparations put off the evil day. Now the world must pay the piper and decide whether or not the German people shall be taxed to the limit for two generations in revenge for a war for which they were responsible, but no more responsible than France England and America.—Two young gentlemen in Atlanta, Georgia, have been getting thrills through murder. They made the egregious error of murdering white men.—In Philadelphia policemen have collected about $800,000 in liquor graft. They will be punished for it. If they had made this amount in Wall Street gambling, they would have appeared in Who's Who.—Is it a crime to steal news? Is it a crime to lie about your income tax? Is it impolite to assume that all countries lie about the cost of producing goods? France and the United States are discussing these matters.—It is acknowledged that $10,000,000 was spent in the recent political campaign. It is fair to assume that $10,000,000 more were spent and not acknowledged. Why should it cost $20,000,000 to carry on a presidential campaign? Who gets this money? And what do they give for it?—Mussolini establishes a dictatorship in Italy. Fine! And pictures in the Sunday papers! Lenin establishes a dictatorship in Russia. Unspeakable!—The Prince of Wales is advertising the British brand of imperialism before the natives of East Africa with white Kenyans as chorus.—Afghanistan is making new economic bargains with all the nations.—When China says she is going to have new and decent treaties with the West, she seems to mean it. with the West, she seems to mean it.—The Happy Warrior will now discuss the Negro problem in the *New Republic*.—Latest weather report: Expect a long dry spell.

The CRISIS *is published monthly and copyrighted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 15 cents a copy, $1.50 a year. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879*

Maurice Hunter as a Wise Man from the East

A Novelty in Blue

A Story by JULIAN ELIHU BAGLEY

SCHEMING hordes of get-rich-quick migrants had poured into the Magic City of Florida for three years. Now the town was crowded with adventurers and the cost of living, already advanced threefold, was rising as steadily as mercury in a thermometer on a sweltering July morning. Work was plentiful but there was an excessive supply of workers. Thus it came to the point that whenever a job was chalked up on the bulletin board of the employment bureau, men—and women, too, as a matter of fact,—leaped at it like a cage of hungry lions leap at a hunk of raw meat.

But the workers were not alone in their gamble for a chance in this new El Dorado. Rich folk were playing the game too, and scarcely a day passed without seeing some one of them make or lose a fortune. Sometimes the trick was turned at the Casino, but more likely it happened in the exchange or sale of a piece of land, or a hotel, or a restaurant, or any and everything that could be leased, sold, bought or exchanged. Thus it was in some such labyrinth of scheming as this that one John Ketchem got possession of the Lyric Theater. And in the beginning the new owner had made the house pay, but when a rival capitalist opened the Crispus Attucks Theater for Negroes and the Negroes deserted the gallery of the Lyric for the more comfortable main floor of the Attucks, there was a noticeable decrease in the Lyric's receipts.

"Well, let the darkies go," John Ketchem had told his house manager, "in a month or so we'll fill that gallery with white folks—even if we have to cut down on the price of admission."

WELL, the month or so passed. And true to his promise, John Ketchem cut down on his price of admission. But the gallery vacated by the Negroes remained empty. Meantime there had been much talk among the white folk about the fine singing, the furious dancing, and the genuine comedy down at the new theater for the colored people. And how had the white folk heard all this? From their servants, of course. Listen to Roseanna: "Oh! Miss Annie, you jus' oughtto been down at the Lyric last night! It was too wonderful for words. There was a fellow who danced the Buck like you never seen it danced befo'. I declare, it seems jus' like his foots took a fit the minute he give 'em the first fling.

Then there was a man who played like he had to git drunk to keep from being scared of his wife. And there was a woman name' Ma Rayford, who sung blues that most near set me crazy. I hear they are going to put on a special midnight Buck and Wing Dance and a Blues Singing Contest for the white folks sometime soon. And if they do, you must go, Miss Annie, 'cause you'll surely have the time of your life."

But Roseanna was not the only servant boosting the Attucks shows. Here and there chauffeurs dropped casual hints to their employers regarding the merits of the productions; black laborers at work chanted Ma Rayford's blues till their white foremen inquired the source of their origin, and, once in a while, when some tourist innocently inquired if "Charlie," the bellboy, was going to see the girl friend that night, "Charlie" was almost sure to respond: "Yes, sir, I'm going to take her to the Attucks." And it required no prompting on the part of the tourist to find out just how good the shows at the Attucks were. So when the midnight shows at the Negro theater became an actual fact white theater patrons were curious enough to turn out *en masse*.

And John Ketchem was among the first to take advantage of the opportunity, for he attended the premiere.

"WELL, I hate to admit it," he confided to his house manager, "but the darkies have got us licked. They're giving the folks what they want down there. And we've got to change our whole show. We've got to put more pep in our productions. Our patrons want something different—something like the darkies are giving 'em. And we've got to hurry up and give it to 'em, too. Otherwise one of these days we'll wake up and find ourselves playing to more empty seats."

Well the house manager and John Ketchem put their heads together and within a couple of weeks they had worked out a program which bade fair to catch the public's fancy. Then through the daily papers and on the screen of the theater, the patrons were told about it. "A stupendous production of *My Lady of the South*," so the announcement read, "for one week only, with an all-star white cast, singing and acting so much like the people they're portraying that you'll think you're right back on the old plantation. And in between the acts there'll be sketches and dances. And for the last night, as a special extraordinary added attraction, we'll present Miss Virginia Lee, a little blues singer, who has all the native chirpers beat a mile. So come along, folks, and hear this little lady sing. You'll rave over her, we know. For she's the bluest warbling warbler that ever warbled blues."

II

CAME Saturday night, and the final performance of *My Lady of the South*. For this gala event John Ketchem had filled the Lyric. But it had taken no little energy and scheming to do it. Tickets had been sold to the whites at cut-rates, and they had bought out the orchestra and balcony, while the Negroes, lured into coming by free passes to certain loquacious ones and the extravagant claim that Miss Virginia Lee "had all the native chirpers beat a mile," had crowded the gallery to its very doors.

It's ten o'clock now. The curtain has just fallen on the last act of the play. The house is still dark. But the spotlight of attention is focused on A Novelty in Blue. This is flashed on the screen: "Miss Virginia Lee, noted blues singer, arrives in the Magic City for a one night engagement at the Lyric and is met at the station by city officials and the owner of the Lyric." Then there were the usual scenes: handshakes . . . poses . . .

smiles . . . and of course, someone handed the singer a bouquet of roses. Then the picture flickered out. But there was one more caption and scene: "Miss Virginia Lee arrives at the stage door of the Lyric." And finally: "And now Miss Virginia Lee herself!"

THE orchestra in the pit struck up *Alabama Bound.* Not the new *Alabamy Bound,* but the old one which moans about the Mississippi River being so deep and wide that you can't see your honey babe on the other side. The curtain ran up and revealed the usual plantation scene, that is, a scene with a cabin, a river, a steamer and Negroes picking cotton in a far-away field. A conventional affair, the audience thought. But a moment later when actual smoke began curling from the chimney of the cabin, and the old stern wheel steamer gave the illusion of paddling her way up the river, they changed their opinion. Now the orchestra ceased playing. Stage lights were subdued. Behind the scenes a rich contralto rang out:

If you smell yo' biscuits burnin'
Just ooze yo' damper down!
'Cause yo' sweet mamma she's gonna leave this town!

The audience roared. Presently the singer shambled before them and began to sing. She felt bad . . . She felt blue . . . But it wouldn't be long . . . Train was waiting . . . She didn't have no time to lose . . . She had the *Down Home Blues.* And when she had finished this blues song she changed her tempo and sang *That Darktown Strut,* accompanying the tune with an eccentric dance that plunged the house into periodic outbursts of applause.

"She sings and dances like a darkey," someone on the lower floor ventured.

"I bet she *is* a darkey," another chimed in.

But farther away, up in the gallery, the Negroes weren't so sure about her identity. "Boy!" a black youngster in the front row was arguing, "that's a zigaboo jus' as sho's I'm born."

"And I don't mean maybe!" echoed the brown boy at his elbow.

"Oh shut up that nonsense, fellows," a yellow boy in the row behind them put in. "What ails you, anyhow? Don't you know they'd shut up the Lyric forever an' ever 'fo' they'd let a colored girl sing here."

"And I don't mean maybe!" the brown boy chuckled again.

"But big boy," the black youth came back strongly, "there's been some changes made 'round here since the old Attucks flung her doors open. And besides, you can't fool me. I know my people when I see 'em, 'specially if they're in motion. Look at them teeth, will you—white as the meat of a cocoanut! And them eyes—good Lord, man!—didn't you see 'em flash? And wasn't they jus' grand! Now who but a joker could roll her eyes like that. Hey! Hey! Look a-yonder. Catch that step. Well if that wouldn' mesmerize a 'gator, nothin' else would. Boy, I'd bet my life that's a colored girl 'cause ain't nobody in the world could make the turns and twists that gal's makin' without being one o' Aunt Hagar's children. Look! Look! fellows—can't you see it in her strut, fellows? Hot dog!—hey! hey! Look a-yonder. I mean that gal's got Elgin movements in her hips with a twenty year ga'ntee!" the black boy concluded in a frenzy of delight as the singer finished her song and dance.

AND once more the brown boy chuckled: "And I don't mean maybe!" But the yellow boy was silent. The house shook with applause. The singer bowed and smiled and smiled and bowed. The curtain fell. But the audience continued shaking the house with applause. Then of a sudden, a man on the first floor leaped to his feet and shouted: "Folks! do you know that's a darkey gal?"

The audience gasped.

"Well I was jus' a-waitin' to see if anyone in the house had nerve enough to say that in a louder tone than a whisper," a man with a long mustache joined in. "I know it's a darkey and it's an insult and a disgrace to us. We ain't never had nothing like this in the Lyric before."

"Well what are we going to do about it?" a third man asked.

"I know what I'm going to do about it!" a man with red hair bellowed. "I'm going to take my hat and walk out, and all of you who call yourself decent'll do likewise." And he got up and made his way toward the door. Half a dozen men in different sections of the house followed his example. Others were shifting uneasily in their seats.

"Wait a minute, gentlemen!" John Ketchem interrupted as he emerged from behind the scenes. "I can explain everything."

"You can't explain nothing!" the man with the red hair shouted. But one of the six who had so readily joined him came to a halt. Then the other five paused, too. So the man with the red hair wheeled around and snarled: "All right—explain."

"Ladies and gentlemen," John Ketchem began. "I'm terribly sorry this rather unpleasant echo has crept into our program. But I knew it was coming. I heard the mumbling all over the house. That's how I got on my guard. Now, I'll clear up the misunderstanding immediately. And how? Well, I'm going to turn the house over to Miss Virginia Lee herself. And, ladies and gentlemen, when Miss Lee is through I'll guarantee that each and every one of you will be absolutely and unequivocally convinced that she is, without the least shadow of doubt, a genuine Novelty in Blue. . . . I thank you!" And John Ketchem disappeared behind the scenes.

ONCE more the orchestra struck up *Alabama Bound.* Once more the brown maiden shambled onto the dim-lit stage. But this time instead of singing, she spoke. Did the people think she was colored? Well! that was the very finest possible tribute they could pay her for her impersonations, and she was overwhelmed. Would they like to see her take off her make-up, and would they like to see her put it on again—and sing? Oh, would they? Well, she would. And so a man darted from behind the scenes and helped her take off her brown make-up, and lo and behold, her face was as white as snow. Then she took off her black, curly wig and revealed her own hair—a mass of flowing gold!

Snickering sheepishly, the man with the red hair shuffled back down the aisle and dropped into his seat. Others who'd started out with him did likewise. The white folk laughed a reluctant laugh. The colored folk laughed that way, too.

"Well I'll be damn, if that ain't an ofay!" the black boy growled. And for the last time the brown boy added his inevitable "and I don't mean maybe!" while the yellow boy harped a triumphant "Ah-hah! didn't I tell you so! Didn't I tell you so!"

All this, of course, had gone on while Miss Virginia Lee sat at her make-up table. Now she rose, and walking toward the wings, tossed her black, curly wig behind the scenes. Then returning to the center of the stage, she faced her audience. Would the people have her sing some good old-fashioned song like *Swanee River* without her make-up?

"No!" shouted the man with the red hair. "Tell us how you learned to sing blues so well. Then fix up like you was before and sing us some more songs like that first one. That's what we want to hear, ain't it, folks?"

"Yes!" responded the audience in one big chorus. So with her whole face flushing crimson, Miss Virginia Lee told her story. It was short and simple: She was reared on her father's plantation in Georgia, and she'd learned to sing blues by listening to the colored folk singing in the fields.

(*Will you please turn to page* 421)

THE N.A.A.C.P. BATTLE FRONT

A HOSPITAL'S PREJUDICE

WHAT does it matter that the Sloane Maternity Hospital excluded a previously accepted colored nurse from a special training course in obstetrics when it was found she was colored?

Of course, it was a slight and an insult to the colored nurse, Miss Gladys L. Catchings. And it was another of the slights, another of the barriers which Negroes as a group by their experience in America, have come to expect.

But why did the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People make an issue of it in the daily newspapers of New York City and of the entire country? Why has the N. A. A. C. P. been writing to leading citizens, contributors to the fund for the Medical Center in New York, asking them to protest against this action by the Sloane Maternity Hospital authorities? What, after all, was at stake in the case of Gladys L. Catchings?

To begin with, the subject of public health is one that cannot be divided by groups. It is one that concerns every citizen of the country. If any group is less well cared for medically and in public health administration than other groups in America, that group will adversely affect the health of the entire community.

It must be remembered that there is a crying need for well-trained Negro doctors and nurses in America. The government reports show that there are only 3500 colored doctors in America, or one doctor to each 3343 Negroes, whereas there is one white doctor to each 553 whites. The discrepancy is partly due to the length and expense of the training required to become a doctor. But it is perhaps just as much due to the difficulties placed by race prejudice in the way of colored medical students. They are not wanted at most white institutions. If they do complete their course, there are only very few hospitals where they may serve as internes and complete the training necessary before engaging in private practice.

Miss Gladys L. Catchings

THE same barriers and obstacles confront colored nurses. The case of Miss Catchings emphasizes the fact. It will be remembered that she was head nurse of the obstetrical division of the Freedmen's Hospital in Washington. She applied for a course in Sloane Maternity Hospital in New York, an advanced course for graduate nurses, in order to round out her training and increase her public usefulness to her race and to the community. She was highly recommended for this course, on the basis of her previous service and achievement by the head surgeon of the Freedmen's Hospital. She was accepted for the course by the Sloane Maternity Hospital, was assigned a room, attended one class and then, suddenly, was informed that she could not continue. that she must leave—because of the color of her skin.

Was this because white people object to the most intimate personal service by Negroes? Was this because there was anything objectionable about Miss Catchings personally, or any imputation against her skill and competence as a trained nurse? Not at all. It was a plain case and a particularly ugly one, of white caste discrimination. of the determination to close an avenue of opportunity on grounds of the most bigoted form of snobbery, race hatred, the determination on the most un-American of grounds to prevent a qualified person from having opportunity to advance.

What did the N. A. A. C. P. do? It appealed to the authorities of Sloane Maternity Hospital. After a brief correspondence these authorities abruptly declared the matter closed. The N. A. A. C. P. then wrote to the trustees of Columbia University, who had jurisdiction over the Sloane Maternity Hospital. The Secretary of Columbia University replied that control of the Sloane Maernity Hospital was now vested in the Presbyterian Hospital, which has for its slogan: "Without Regard to Race, Creed or Color". Moreover, the Presbyterian Hospital is part of the Medical Center of New York, a community project on a hitherto unattempted scale, purporting to be for the benefit of all citizens, and con-

N. A. A. C. P. Prize Babies

Richard Wallace, Jr.
Third Prize
Binghamton, N. Y.

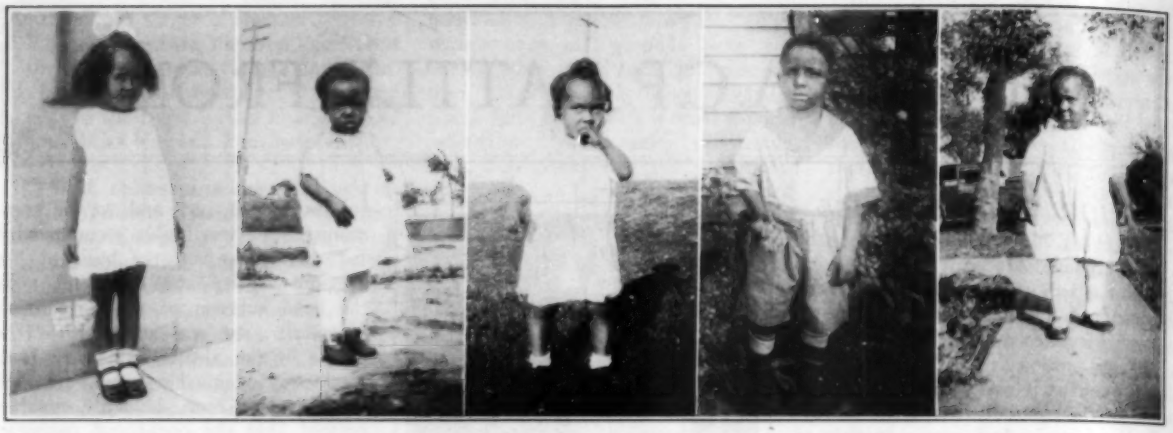
George Moore, Jr.
Second Prize
Binghamton, N. Y.

John Clay
Third Prize
Steubenville, O.

Percy Henry, Jr.
Second Prize
Cincinnati, O.

Leslie Bugg
Ninth Prize
Pasadena, Calif.

William Campbell
Second Prize
Lexington, Ky.



Charline Spivery
Eighth Prize
Pasadena, Calif.

Geraldine Bridgewater
Second Prize
Sioux-Falls, S. D.

Bunny White
First Prize
Sioux-Falls, S. D.

Paul Southern
First Prize
Indianapolis, Ind.

Virgil Anderson, Jr.
Third Prize
Sioux-Falls, S. D.

tributed to liberally by Negroes of New York City.

WHEN the N. A. A. C. P. wrote to Mr. Dean Sage, President of the Presbyterian Hospital, whose slogan is "Without Regard to Race, Creed or Color", what reply did the head of this institution make? He wrote that he concurred with the Sloane Hospital authorities in considering the case "closed", and that he thought, "Miss Catchings has handled this matter in a manner which is not consonant with the true interests of her people".

In short, bigoted, short-sighted, bourbon reaction in the saddle, and hypocrisy to boot, made a decision that is unfair, and against public policy, and then choked off further discussion. A further letter written to Mr. Dean Sage, head of the Presbyterian Hospital ("Without Regard to Race, Creed or Color"), asking how he thought this case of discrimination on the basis of race and color should be handled, received no reply.

It may not be amiss, in this connection to examine the statistics for infant mortality published this year by the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. This tabulation shows that in states having 2000 or more colored births each year during the period from 1915 to 1926, the number of white deaths was 70 per thousand as against 116 per thousand for Negroes.

Now Miss Catchings is the well-trained colored nurse who could not only herself care for and instruct colored women about to become mothers, but who could direct and teach other colored nurses. There is little doubt that better nursing and more of it, among colored women, would reduce this disproportionately large infant mortality among Negroes. Yet, the opportunity for this training was denied Miss Catchings by the Sloane Maternity Hospital, under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Hospital "Without Regard to Race, Creed or Color", both of these institutions being part of the Medical Center of New York City.

THE N. A. A. C. P. has not yet stopped its agitation in this case, despite the discouraging response. Discouraging, that is, among white people. Not one prominent white person in New York City, except those directly connected with the N. A. A. C. P. has lifted his or her voice in protest against this outrage. Not one of the 89 "leading citizens" written to by the N. A. A. C. P., and fully informed of the facts in the case, has uttered a single public word of disapproval of the cowardly and bigoted action of the Sloane Maternity Hospital, acquiesced in by the Presbyterian Hospital ("Without Regard to Race, Creed or Color"). Out of the 89 persons written to by the N. A. A. C. P. only 6 so much as acknowledged the N. A. A. C. P. letter. On the other hand, many colored contributors to the fund for the Medical Center have written vigorous letters of protest when the

(*Will you please turn to page* 422)

Ezel Hubbard
Third Prize
Cincinnati, O.

Kathleen Miller
First Prize
Newark, N. J.

John Rainbow
First Prize
Wheeling, W. Va.

Arnetta Johnson
Third Prize
Wheeling, W. Va.

Gertrude Monroe
Third Prize
Newark, N. J.

The Little Page

By EFFIE LEE NEWSOME

Calendar Chat

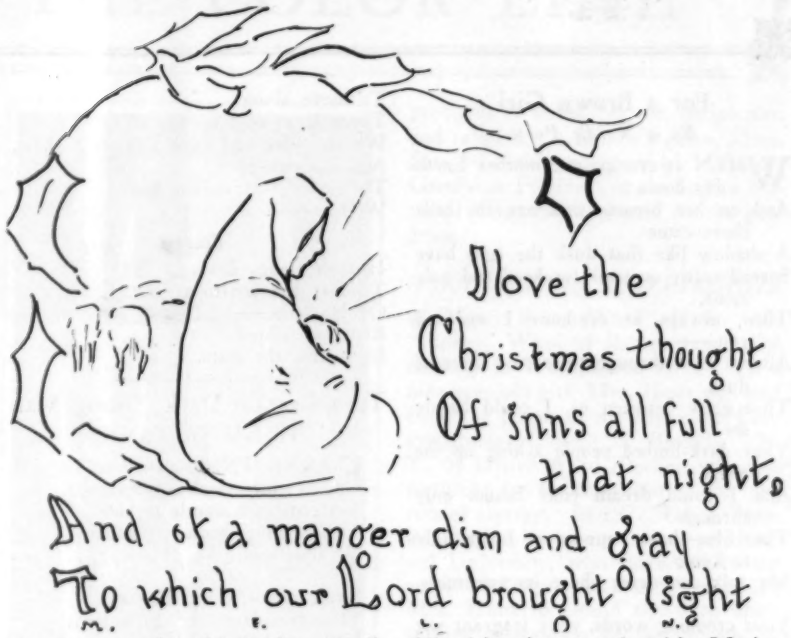
CHRISTMAS almost here! That's what comes to our minds as we think of December. And we string a chain of pleasant memories that is like the popped corn bits that swing on the Christmas tree. We recall the holly wreaths, the warm bright indoors and the cedary smell of the Christmas tree.

It is said that in London people who are not able to buy the more costly Christmas greens get little pots of the dainty heather that lasts a long while. Thousands of heather plants are sold and many hearts made happy.

We used to sing a song:

OVER the river and through the snow
To grandfather's farm we go.
The horse knows the way
To carry the sleigh
Through the white and drifting snow.
Over the river and through the snow,
Now grandma's cap I spy.
Hurrah for the fun!
Is the pudding done?
Hurrah for the pumpkin pie!"

These are not the most beautiful verses ever written. But we loved them because they were so jolly and told of just the plain merry things that we knew, a horse trotting "Pat, pat pat!" over the tight snow, bells jingling, and there was the mention of a pudding and a pumpkin pie and grandmother's cap and all that. To sing it was like crying, "Merry Christmas, everybody!"



LET HIM RUMMAGE

DENNY was with her now, a nervous inattentive little thing, hard to like, seemed to her. So different from Reuben. Instead of saying "Yes" and "No, Mother Gardner" the child would grunt "Yap" and "Umph-humph" and "Naw". He seemed a hopeless case.

Mother Gardner tried to teach him but he never listened to anything. Indeed at first he had had an unconscious habit of drumming lightly on things while she talked. Denny was a trying ferret-eyed little being. She had almost daily to remind him of household tasks.

And now on Christmas Eve he had done the unutterable—gone into Reuben's things. They had lain for five years undisturbed in the little storeroom. On leaving for a boys' school in the east Reuben in his methodical way had gathered his handicraft together—the wooden swords he had planed so neatly, the leather pencil cases that he had made, the stools, a trim airplane—all sorts of ingenious toys he had stacked in the little closet under the eaves and closed the door.

"Grandmother," had been his directions, "if any other boy ever comes to be with you, let him get in the closet here if he wants to and rummage."

BUT Reuben did not know the value of those precious little things in his grandmother's eyes. He was her only grandchild. And moreover the work was so exact and perfect. And then for a careless untrained child like Denny to go through them all, move them here and there—perhaps lose some of the little clock wheels that Reuben had collected—this seemed too much. Denny who lost his cap every day and strewed his clothes shiftlessly about the room that Reuben had had!

So on Christmas Eve night Mother Gardner had felt quite justified in hiding not for but from Denny the little gifts purchased for the next morning. She had told Denny there would be no gifts. Of course she planned for him to have them later on. He had whimpered almost touchingly as she chided him, "I couldn't help it."

But, there! it was Denny over and over again. She could never get used to him. Perhaps it had been a mistake to let them send her this little orphan from the city. He was only a source of anxiety to her and Sophy, the girl who stayed with Mother Gardner.

Preparing for bed she was gazing at the stars. For years she had watched them on Christmas Eve night and thought of one particular radiant star that lighted the path to the Master. How clear and beautiful the host of lights in the winter sky! She and Reuben had loved to look at them together while she would tell that most wonderful story of the Wise Men and the Light of all the world.

Suddenly there was a sound that seemed to come from Denny's room though Denny had gone to bed long ago. Mother Gardner wondered if he was again disturbing Reuben's treasures. She hurried to the child's room, but found it in darkness. In one corner gleamed—two stars, surely, as light from a low window came in. It was Denny's eyes glistening.

"I started down to tell you again," he faltered, "I'll never meddle with those things any more. But I thought you might think I was just sayin' it because it was Christmas Eve. So I got back in bed 'cause I thought it might just be better to show you than to do so much promisin'."

MOTHER GARDNER was making a light as Denny spoke. She found him fortified as he persisted in doing nightly. For he was highly imaginative and would smuggle stones and bits of rock into his bed room for use in case of robbery. The country

(*Will you please turn to page* 422)

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THE POET'S CORNER

For a Brown Girl

By a Nordic Poet.

WHEN at evening our mother Earth lay down
And on her breasts that are the hills there came
A shadow like that dusk the ages have
Spread softly on your forehead and pale arms,
Then, always at eve-hour I visioned you——
Always as if through some pale sheet of dusk
That grew between us, I could barely see
Your dark-limbed people aching up the years.
And I could dream your bosom only through
That film—hear your sweet laugh only to know
My folk can never share its sweetness, nor
Your crooning words, your fragrant wit —they've thrust
You from their temple where some carved mock god
Leers at his bigot-children and blind priests——
And sick with knowing how my people and
Your people have played crassly with frail things,
(Leaving us here to weep among the shards)
I kissed *our* mother Earth—this we can have
In common, anyway—and then I cried,
"Thy children are not perfect yet, O God!"

Harlem

By EDWARD SILVERA

THEY have bruised your body
And nailed it to a cross——
I saw a black Madonna
Weeping for you
On a tenement doorstep.

Midnight

You are a throbbing heart
Of stone——
The feet of lovers
Echo on your sidewalks
Like the ticking
Of a thousand clocks.

Skyscraper

It is easy to forget
In Harlem——
The skyscrapers are motherly fingers
Pointing to something
Afar off.

Street Corner

This is the rendezvous
Of dreamers——
What if the cop does tell them
To move along:
There is a joint up the street
Where coffee and buns sell for a dime,
And somewhere
There are soft dream beds
Waiting——.

Stars

Heaven stoops down
To kiss the rooftops
Of Harlem——
Rent is cheaper
Up nearer the stars.

To a Certain Dark Young Man

BY LAURA TANNE

EARNESTNESS is a ritual
In your essential priesthood.
Austerity is a mantle to hide
The laughing brown freedom
Of your nudity.

Black moons in a milky sky
Your eyes droop to half-fullness
In weary languor and bargain
For everlasting tenderness
In your woman.

The softness of your voice
Retains measured cadence
As a net for the heart-throbs
Of your listener.

Love is a wandering exile
Whose appropriate isolation
Compensates you in artistic
And scarcely divined
Compromises of lust.

Your genius finds itself
In the narrow protrusion of thighs
In the grimacing moonlight lost
On a pale woman's face.

The procreative urge is an escape
From provincial bars of mendacity.
It is studied spontaniety
Experimenting with such oddities
As intellect and morality. . . .
You are the blues a mad nun sings
On Sicilian hills.

The Gods of the Persecuted

By HENRY LEE MOON

THE persecuted make obeisance to many gods,
Many unanswering gods—
Gods who turn deaf ears
To the prayers of the earth's disinherited,
Who hear not the mumbled plaints of voiceless pariahs
Abased at the feet of the gods of their despoilers.

Not for dumb driven diggers of ditches,
Not for dust-choked pickers of cotton,
Nor straining loaders of carriers,
Not for the fettered multitudes
That worship at their shrines
Do the gods perform their miracles.

Seeking balms for their sores
The persecuted receive but the sting of irritants;
Seeking contentment, but the bitterness of denial.
With wounds recrudescent,
With minds uncontent
They turn yet
To the gods of the privileged.

And the gods?
In their cloistered sanctuaries
The worshipped stare with poker faces
At the antics of the dust.

The gods of the persecuted are many
But unanswering.

To a Black Poet

By DON GORDON

NOW may your anguish know an interlude;
Your songs have come as hands outstretched
And mine I send to be a further seal
Upon the cryptic fusion of the race.

When first they came, swift wonder moved beside,
For here were words as frail and high as stars
And long low echoes of a master strain
Sounding new kinship strong as blood.

Music is a bright Lethean stream
Bearing old memories out to sea . . .
I only knew that beauty glittered by
In the thousand colors of delight;

I only prayed my veins might surge
With your primal rhythms and your flame
That I might weld my dreams like swords,
Gaunt and tempered as these.

Your songs have come as hands outstretched,
Mine the signal and the seal of clan . . .
No longer do I sense the patterns of the flesh,
I only hear a wailing in the wind.

Fee

By GEORGIA D. JOHNSON

FOR all the woes my life may hold
Of hurts and scars and sorrows
The blighting bivouac of today,
The opal-hued tomorrows,
I sum—and hold full paltry pay
To offer for the hour
That brought to bloom within my heart
Love's one immortal flower!

ALONG THE COLOR LINE

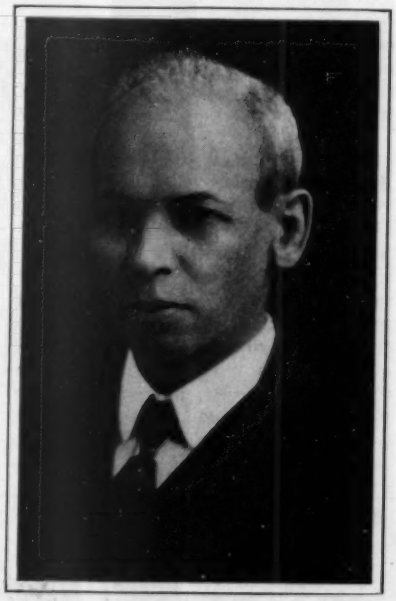
THE MIDDLE STATES

¶ Thomas Brown, fifteen year old high school student of the Booker T. Washington Junior High School, won the first prize in the essay contest held throughout Delaware County, Pa. among grammar and junior high schools on the topic, "The Achievements of Commander Byrd". Thomas will receive a prize of $25 on commencement night when he will be graduated.

¶ The Tau Omega and Lambda Chapters of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, New York, recently awarded its sixth annual scholarship of $150 to Miss Lula Burton, a freshman in Hunter College.

¶ We mentioned Carl Diton's automobile concert trip last month. Here are further details: his trail covered New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Ohio, Michigan, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Kentucky, West Virginia, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah, Montana, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa. Mr. Diton also has won a scholarship from the Juilliard Graduate School of Music, New York City, for the season 1928-29 to study voice.

¶ By the terms of the will of Dr. Harry B. Roop of Wrightsville, Pa., Stephen Dorsey, a colored employee of the physician, will receive $5,000, payable at the rate of $50 a month with interest.



Benjamin F. Bowles, page 413

¶ Marian Anderson, Philadelphia contralto, who studied in London where she appeared at one of the popular concerts of the London Philharmonic Orchestra during the last season, is touring America under the management of Arthur Johnson.

¶ The First India Conference, under the auspices of the India Society of America, was held in New York City from October 14th to November 5th, with a view of fostering a knowledge of the ancient civilization and modern problems of India, her art, philosophy, and religion. A Hindu woman, Mme. Sarojini Naidu, successor of Mahatma Gandhi as President of the Indian National Congress, appeared on the program.

WASHINGTON AND VIRGINIA

¶ Mrs. Rose Ward Hunt, the "Pinkey" Ward of slavery fame, died recently in Washington, D. C. As a nine year old girl, Mrs. Hunt was sold from the pulpit of the Plymouth Congregational Church of Brooklyn, N. Y., by Henry Ward Beecher, who was picturing for his congregation the horrors of slavery. In 1927, Dr. J. Stanley Durkee, former president of Howard University, who succeeded to the pulpit of Plymouth Church, persuaded Mrs. Hunt to attend the 80th anniversary celebration of the church, at which time she occupied the Beecher family pew with descendants of the abilitionist.

¶ There are 450 members of the freshman class of Howard University this year. The total enrollment exceeds 2,000. The registrar says that the time is not far distant when Howard will have to limit its freshman class, or increase its teaching and its physical facilities.

¶ Police officials of Wilmington, Delaware, recently arrested speakers of the Worker's (Communist) Party for advocating race equality. Among the arrested persons was a colored man, Richard B. Moore, of New York City.

¶ Recently the Rt. Rev. Theophilus Gardiner, bishop suffragan of Liberia, who was among the 20,000 bishops, priests and laymen attending the Epis-

N. A. A. C. Popularity Contest

Miss Clara Collins
Third Prize
San Diego, Calif.

Miss Mildred Whiting
First Prize
Plainfield, N. J.

Mrs. Willie Roberson
First Prize
San Diego, Calif.

Miss Edna McAllister
Second Prize
Atchison, Kans.

Miss Evelyn Grant
Second Prize
Mobile, Ala.

Miss Lettice Sylvester
First Prize
Mobile, Ala.

copal convention at the Cathedral in Washington, D. C., was barred from the public dining room of the Willard Hotel because of his color. Fellow ministers, hearing of the bishop's insult, organized a luncheon to be served in a private dining room of the hotel.

¶ In the report of the Prudential Bank of Washington, D. C., issued on October 8th, it was announced that the bank had $437,177 in assets.

¶ Isaac Newton Miller, son of Professor Kelley Miller of Howard University, died in Washington, D. C., October 3rd at the age of 31 years. Mr. Miller was educated in the primary and secondary schools of Washington and was graduated from Howard University with the B. A. degree in 1919. Following his graduation he took special courses in Physical Education at Harvard University and was appointed director of Physical Education in the Armstrong Technical High School of Washington in 1920, which position he held until his death.

¶ A Department of Public Information at Howard University was established recently by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, in order to relieve the strain on the office of the Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Emory B. Smith is director.

¶ The National Interracial Conference, which is being sponsored by sixteen national organizations, will hold a conference at Washington, D. C., December 16-19. The subjects of health, industry, agriculture, housing, recreation, crime and race relations will be discussed.

THE SOUTHEAST

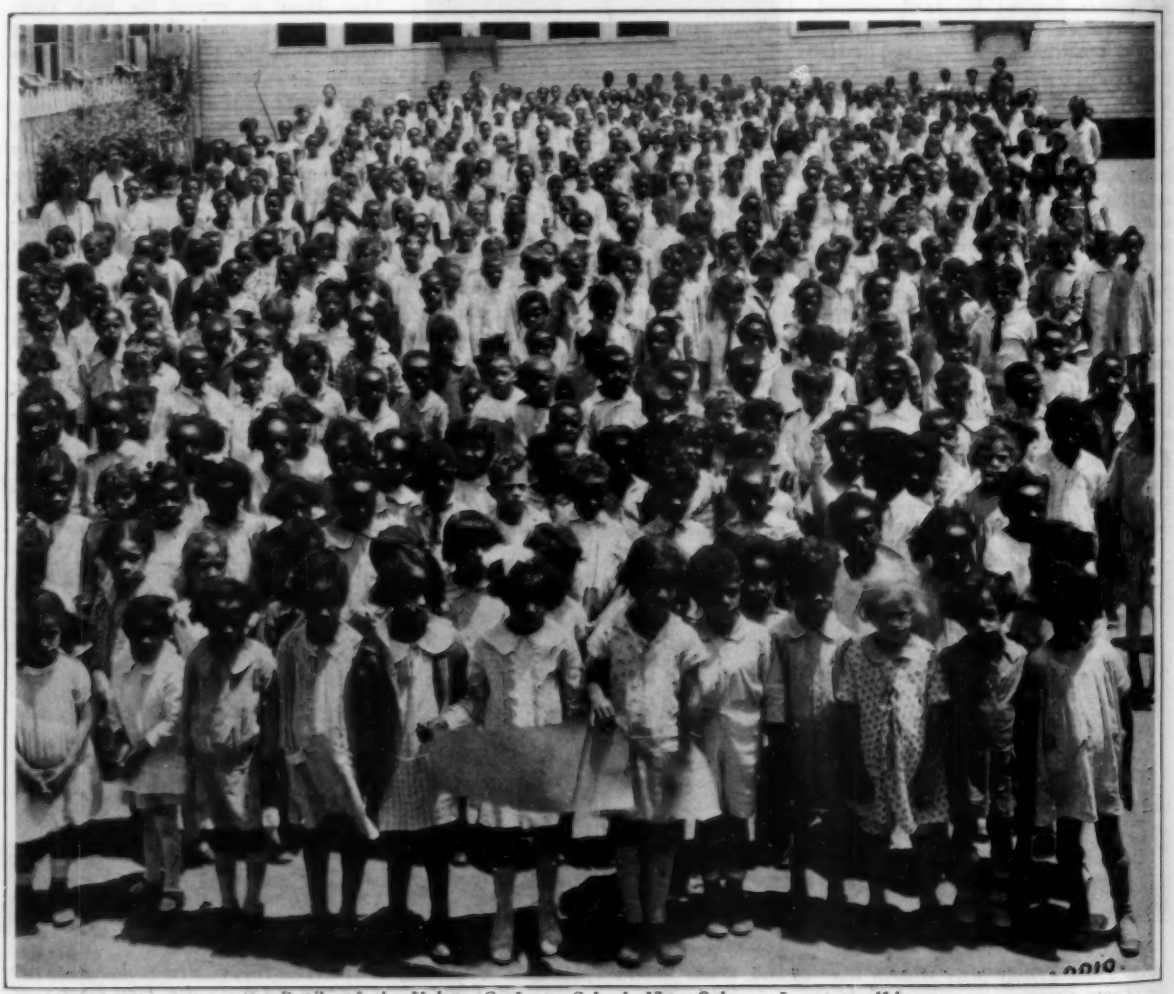
¶ The executive committee of the National Association of Collegiate Deans and Registrars in Negro Schools recently met in Atlanta, Ga., for the purpose of completing arrangements for the forthcoming annual meeting, and in order to plan for the continuation of a study of college administration problems as they relate to the deans and registrars.

¶ Frank Smith, of Greenville, Miss., who gained the name of "Flood Hero" in 1927 because of his brave deeds in rescuing flood victims, with money given him on account of his heroism, has set up one of the finest markets in Greenville for the wholesaling and retailing of fish.

¶ The Atlanta School of Social Work, the only institution in America devoted exclusively to the training of Negroes in social work, has begun its ninth term under the directorship of Forrester B. Washington. The student body is almost twice as large as last year.

¶ There is an effort on foot to disbar all Negro lawyers in Jackson, Miss., which practically means all lawyers in Mississippi, since there are only a few Negro lawyers in the state outside of Jackson. Proceedings have been filed against five Negro lawyers, and the judge before whom the case is to be tried is hostile to colored people.

¶ Henry Dukes, a Negro farmer of Gainesville, Fla., for eight days drove his truck in and out of the hurricane area, carrying refugee families and refusing compensation.



Pupils of the Valena C. Jones School, New Orleans, La., page 414

Honey Brown and Daniel Haynes Burst into the Movies in a Paramount Production.

¶ Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga., has accepted the offer of the General Education Board to give the college $300,000 toward an endowment, provided the college raises an equal amount within a period of three years. Plans are now on foot for the campaign to raise Morehouse's quota.

¶ Products of Negro farmers in twenty counties of Alabama, as well as the work of students in a number of the schools, were exhibited at the Alabama State Fair, November 5-12.

¶ J. B. Clayton, of Atlanta, Ga., who has been an accountant for the Standard Life Insurance Company and the National Benefit Company, recently received a certificate as a certified public accountant. Mr. Clayton has the distinction of being the first colored man to win this distinction in the state of Georgia.

¶ The North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company of Durham, N. C., was organized October 17, 1898. Today it has reseources of over $3,000,000 and nearly a quarter million policyholders.

¶ Miss Jessie R. Fauset of New York City, recently lectured before the student body of Bennett College on "Pride".

¶ Despite the refusal of the city to grant him a license, Dr. I. W. Wooten of Burlington, N. C., has opened a drug store, and is planning to stand for his rights regardless of the outcome.

THE BORDER STATES

¶ In Memphis, the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Company has started "shooting" "Hallelujah", a story written and directed by King Vidor. Honey Brown, vivacious dancing star of the Club Harlem, New York City, and Daniel Haynes. who has been appearing in the Ziegfeld production, "Show Boat", will act the leading roles. The picture will be released in a few months.

¶ Mrs. Anna S. Church, pioneer resident of Memphis, Tennessee, and mother of R. R. Church, Jr., died recently at over 70 years of age. Mrs. Church was educated in the primary and secondary schools of Memphis, and at Antioch College, Ohio, from which institution she was graduated. She returned to Memphis, where she taught in the public schools until her marriage.

¶ W. A. Robinson, who recently resigned his position as Supervisor of Negro High Schools of North Carolina, is now Principal of the Austin High School, Knoxville, Tenn. The high school has a new building with a large gymnasium, excellent science laboratories and equipment, library, cafeteria, and well equipped school rooms. The teaching staff is made up of men and women from the University of Michigan, University of Indiana, Howard, Fisk, Atlanta, Columbia, and Baker Universities, Hampton, Knoxville, Tennesee A. & T. Colleges, and West Virginia Collegiate Institute.

¶ Mrs. Robert Mitchell, Dean of Women at Simmons University, died recently at Louisville, Ky.

¶ Jubilee Day was celebrated at Fisk University on October 6, commemorating the day when the original Jubilee singers set out to raise money for the school. On the eve of Jubilee Day, President and Mrs. Thomas Elsa Jones, impersonating Principal and Mrs. John C. Ogden, gave a supper and reception go to faculty, who impersonated the faculty of 1868. The women came in hoop skirts and the men in black beards.

THE MIDDLE WEST

¶ Mrs. Irene M. Gaines of Chicago, Ill., wife of Harris B. Gaines, Republican candidate for state representative, was recently appointed state central committeewoman for the First Congressional district.

¶ The Superintendent of the Chicago and Cook County School for Boys, where youths are paroled from court, reports that during the past year as

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Oskaloosa, Iowa

high as 40 per cent of the boys in the institution were colored, as compared with 24 per cent a year ago, and 15 per cent four years ago.

¶ Bernard Young, Jr., son of the editor of the *Norfolk Journal and Guide,* was recently appointed to the office of Managing Editor of the *Ohio State Lantern,* student daily paper at Ohio State University. This is the first time such an honor has come to a colored student in a mixed college and on the college daily; other colleges have had colored magazine editors. Mr. Young has been on the *Lantern* staff for two years.

¶ George Cisco of Cleveland, Ohio, has been appointed as manager of one of the largest A. & P. stores in Cleveland. There are three other Negro employees in the personnel of the store.

¶ Samuel Plato, colored contractor, has recently been awarded the general contract for the construction of an extension to the United States Post Office at Wooster, Ohio.

¶ The Lincoln-Douglas debate on slavery, was reenacted on the campus at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., where it originally took place 70 years ago.

Walter B. Williams.

TRANS MISSISSIPPI

¶ A special committee, consisting of Dr. D. C. Todd, Chairman, Mrs. Elias Michael, and Mr. Arthur A. Blumeyer of St. Louis, assisted by two experts, Dr. Bagley and Dr. E. S. Evenden, of Columbia University, New York, were appointed by the Board of Education of the City of St. Louis to make a survey of Harris Teacher's College, the Sumner High School and the Sumner Teacher's College. This Committee has recommended the removal of Frank L. Williams, Principal of Sumner High School, from his present position.

¶ The Sumner High School since 1908 has had 1,100 graduates. Of these, 597 have been graduated from college, afterward, in thirty different states. Of the graduates of the school, 3 are principals, 287 are teachers in the graded schools, 24 are teachers in the St. Louis High Schools. There are also 3 ministers, several physicians, one mechanical dentist, 5 journalists, 2 electrical engineers, 2 nurses, 3 chemists, 2 artists, linotypists, one organist, one head of a Business College, 4 dentists, 3 insurance agents, 3 lawyers, 50 postal employees, 6 musicians, 6 social service workers, 50 stenographers and bookkeepers.

¶ Captain Walter Bruce Williams, who was one of the first colored men to receive a commission of Captain during the World War, died in August

The School in the Desert.

at the Station Hospital, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Captain Williams saw active service in the Spanish-American War; in the Philippine Islands, where, during the Philippine Insurrection in 1900, he was one of the few survivors of a lost batallion; and with the Twenty-fourth Infantry in Mexico in 1916. Since the War, Captain Williams has been military instructor at Western University, Kansas, and in the Lincoln High School, Kansas City, Mo.

¶ B. F. Bowles, Negro educator of East St. Louis, Mo., died September 29, at the age of 59 years. Mr. Bowles was born in Pike County, Ohio, and at the age of 16, after finishing school, he left the farm and began teaching in a country school. In this way he accumulated money to pay his way through the scientific and normal courses at Wilberforce University. In East St. Louis, he developed the colored high school from four to eighteen rooms, from a shack to a modern school plant. His school ranked with the best in East St. Louis. Mr. Bowles was a member of the Missouri Constitutional Convention and he wrote that part of the education program which was adopted.

¶ The annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History met in St. Louis, Mo., in October. Race Admixture was one of the main topics of discussion. Among the speakers were Professor Melville Herskovitz, Northwestern University, Professor Frank J. Bruno, Washington University, Professor Donald Taft, the University of Illinois, and Professor J. P. Markee, St. Louis University.

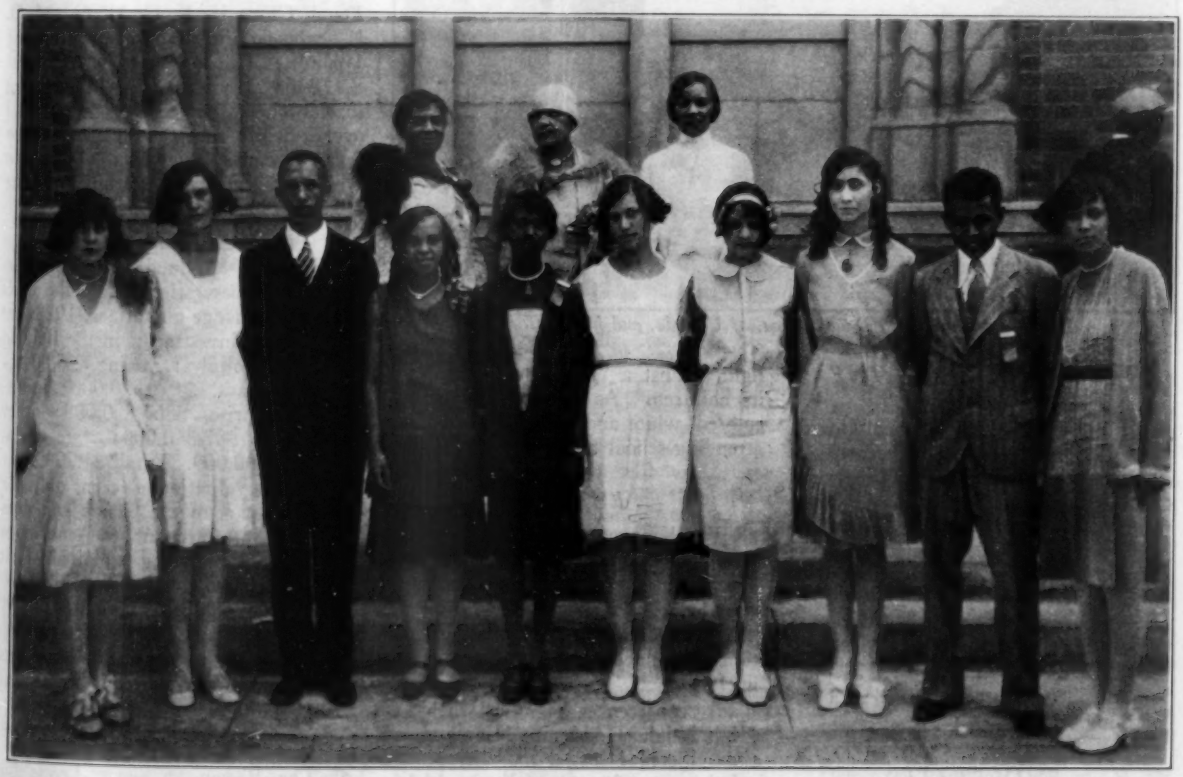
The Young People's Community Center, San Diego, California.

¶ Bernard Mason, Negro high school lad, was recently adjudged the best violinist in any high school in the state of Iowa.

¶ Johnnie Baker Post, located in Minnesota, was the only Negro post representated in the parade of the American Legion, in San Antonio, Tex.

¶ Levi Thompson, a colored man and formerly of Topeka, Kansas, is a stationmaster for the Vera Cruz & Isthmus railroad. On the isthmus the stationmaster is the official host to strangers of note who are visiting.

¶ Dr. A. Porter Davis, colored physician of Kansas City, Kansas, was ordered to remove his airplane from the Fairfax flying field because "he attracted too many colored people to the field".



The Officers and Directors of the Junior Branches, N. A. A. C. P., California.

His Highness, King Daudi Chwa, of Uganda, and his Consort.

LOUISIANA AND THE SOUTHWEST

¶ The Orleans Parish School Board, of New Orleans, La., has recently authorized the building of a 38 room brick building for the Valena C. Jones School for colored children. Miss Fannie C. Williams, principal of the school, is doing much social work among the colored people of this community.

¶ An old frame building, which was used for the hospital at Prairie View State College, recently burned at a loss of $30,000.

THE PACIFIC AND MOUNTAIN STATES

¶ The Negro population of the Palo Verde Valley, California, has won its fight against a "jim crow" school for its children. As a result, Mexicans, colored, white and Indian children are attending school together.

EUROPE

¶ The King of Belgium has founded a Belgian Colonial Institute for fostering scientific research and economic knowledge.

¶ A Colonial International Exposition is planned to take place in Paris in 1930.

¶ A conference has been held at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, England, on the subject of sexual morality among primitive peoples, especially in Africa. Scientists, missionaries and administrators were present. Apparenty there was not a single person of Negro descent in attendance.

¶ In the Junior Clinical-Surgical examination held in September by University College Hospital, London, Mr. I. A. Adjaye of the Gold Coast stood third in the First Class division. At the University of London, Mr. A. O. Larbi of the Gold Coast, passed his examination for Bachelor of Laws in September.

¶ Two appeals from West Africa are being heard by the English Privy Council. One relates to a claim to land, and the other is an appeal against the Supreme Court of Nigeria which suspended a lawyer named Zizer from practicing.

EAST AFRICA

¶ Ras Taffari Makonnen, Regent of Abyssinia, has been crowned negus, or king, by the Empress Zauditu in the presence of the officers of State, and the diplomatic corps. The King-regent received a tremendous ovation. There was a religious ceremony at the cathedral and a procession through the streets of the capital, Addis Ababa. Over 40,000 troops and 200,000 people took part in the celebration. The Empress is the granddaughter of Menelik and ascended the throne September 27, 1916, succeeding the Emperor Yasu.

¶ The Prince of Wales on his visit to Uganda was escorted by 250 war canoes to the capital, Entebbe. He was greeted by His Highness, Sir Daudi Chwa II, K. C. M. G., M. B. E., who is the Kabaka or King of Uganda. The king was born August 8, 1896. He was dressed in a long scarlet cloak, embroidered with gold over a white robe, and wore a white fez, and leopard skin boots. The queen was in a European costume of blue silk with hat and sunshade.

THE BELGIAN CONGO

¶ Professor H. Baudhuin of Louvain University, has estimated on the basis of stock exchange quotations, 1928, the value of the investments in the Belgian Congo as follows: mining, $50,040,000; railways, $191,820,000; industrial enterprise, $861,800,000; other enterprises, $97,300,000; state property, $97,300,000. Total, $1,298,260,000. This valuation concerns only the developed part of the Congo and does not take into account the enormous territory not yet being exploited. Last year, the Congo Companies paid in dividends $2,496,000, of which $705,000 went to the State. The Professor estimates that the total cost of the Congo to Belgium, up to date, has been about $400,000,000.

WEST AFRICA

¶ The Bishop of Sierre Leone has appointed the Reverend J. L. C.

(*Will you please turn to page* 423)

THE FAR HORIZON

THE MONO-MATAPA

THE *African World* quotes Leo Frobenius, who has just gone on a scientific expedition to South Africa:

"Mono-Matapa," said Professor Frobenius, "was undoubtedly a very great kingdom, and from documents which are now in our possession it is apparent that its rulers wielded great power. This document, which is of Portuguese origin, and was, no doubt, prepared at the time of the Portuguese emigration, in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, shows that the religious beliefs and customs of the inhabitants of this place were not of the kind that existed in Solomon's time, a view which has previously been held by many who have carried out exploration of these parts.

"I hope to find in parts of this great former kingdom evidence of habitation from which to obtain accurate information concerning these old institutions. It is possible, if we get this information—and Iam prepared to stay there until I have—we shall be able to reconstruct this old Empire and its architecture and find its relationship to the old cultures. The Kings and Emperors of Mono-Matapa used to observe very curious customs. The King was very powerful, and conducted courts of justice and sacrifice in the spring and at harvest time. Every seventh year, however, he was killed by the people and a new King was crowned. This is a very old custom, which was observed on the borders of the Indian Ocean.

"Such knowledge as this helps us to reconstruct the character and type or style of their civilization. It is by securing information of this character that we hope eventually to discover the time of the foundation of the kingdom of Mono-Matapa. The name in itself means 'Prince of the Mine,' for the area was a great mineral centre, from which much gold and many rubies and diamonds were apparently extracted long before man had learned to use stones and metals. In the desert I hope to find pottery which will enable us to establish the relationship of this old civilization to that in other parts of the world.

"Another link which we hope to study in an effort to trace the development of civilization in these parts will be accomplished through the discovery of some pictures on stone, which portray animals and hunting people with bows and arrows. These are unquestionably Bushmen pictures, found in many parts of Africa."

Dr. Frobenius, concluding, said that he had been preparing for this exploration, which was his ninth, for twenty-five years, and during the long period had been accumulating knowledge, which he hoped would now yield him early discovery of the long-waited details of this former kingdom.

EDUCATION IN AFRICA

A FORMER Governor of the Gold Coast who founded Achimota said recently in London:

Every backward race has a civilization of its own. This civilization has not remained unchanged throughout the ages. Although some of them are very old, the institutions of tribal government and the general life of the people to-day are not exactly the same as in the beginning. They are what the changing needs and general mental development of the race have evolved in the course of many generations. This is the natural, and only sound, method on which the African races should continue their evolution. But every year sees the African races come in closer touch with the advanced civilization of the West. Every year the African sees, more and more, the benefits which he can derive from some of our institutions. Unless we can devise a system by which he can discriminate between those of our institutions which will benefit him, and those which will not, he will imitate without knowledge. This will certainly lead to the gradual destruction of African civilizations, and the promiscuous adoption of institutions which the masses will not have had the time or the knowledge to digest. In some parts of Africa this process has begun. Although ground has been lost, it is not irretrievable, but the next few years form a psychological period in the mental and moral development of the African races. Our task is to give them such education as will lead to their acquiring the knowledge necessary to the wise selection of those of their own institutions to be discarded, retained, or blended with the institutions of Western civilization. We cannot do this without their help.

We must, therefore, give them the opportunties for a higher education that will permit of the development of leaders, and the sound and thorough primary education that will enable the masses to select and understand their own leaders. In adopting such a programme, it follows that we must credit the African races with the capacity to attain eventually the mental development of the European or American. There is no scientific proof which contradicts this belief. On the other hand, individual Africans have made valuable contributions to their respective countries after receiving a sound Western education. What the individual can do, the race can do, provided that the educational errors of the past are rectified. Summing up, it is our duty, as members of the Christian nations of Western civilization, to give the races over which we are ruling the opportunities which our own ancestors has had: and sufficient time to take advantage of them, before we can consign them to the limbo of the uneducable.

The Gold Coast *Independent*, a Negro paper, adds:

It does sound rather strange and funny to us that in these days the opinion should gain widespread currency in high places—official and otherwise—that the African is not capable of evolving his society without suffering the loss of his national individuality. Those who so share this preposterous view maintain, in pressing home their case, that in his endeavor to assimilate Western Civilization the African becmes denationalized, detribalized, or a sort of "social monster" utterly useless both unto himself and his people. To show that this is a philosophical absurdity which is scientifically untenable as well as to delineate the lines on which he can safely adapt himself to Western Civilization without endangering and destroying his national identity is the sole purpose and chief aim of this undertaking to which these columns are devoted. We venture to say that by no stretch of the imagination can we reconcile ourselves with the view that is being so insistently put forward by the advocates of this queer notion, nor can we for a single moment conceive how it can be earnestly urged, by any sane man or body of men who are possessed of reason and commonsense, that the African is by nature and destiny doomed to remain *in statu quo ante* infinitely, and that to him and none else civilization, social progress, moral elevation and development are meaningless ideas which he can neither understand nor grasp.

WHITE AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA keeps colored emigrants out by giving them a test in "a modern language". The Officials deliberately choose some modern language which they know the colored emigrant is not acquainted with. The following clipping comes from a Melbourne paper and is headed "Fails in German Test".

When Oliver Alkno Clarke, a young native of Jamaica (West Indies) failed to pass a dictation test in German a charge of being a prohibited immigrant was prefered against him by officers of the Customs department. He appeared before Mr. A. A. Kelley, P.M., at the City Court on Tuesday.

Detective Inspector Gleeson, of the

(*Will you please turn to page* 425)

An Appeal to America

THE following historic document was issued in the closing weeks of the Presidential campaign of 1928. It deserves to be re-read and preserved.

The persons whose names are signed beneath are alike in the fact that we all have Negro slaves among our ancestors. In other respects, we differ widely; in descent, in dwelling place, in age and occupation, and, to some extent, in our approach to what is known as the Negro problem.

More especially we differ in political thought and allegiance: some of us are Republicans by inheritance and long custom; others are Democrats, by affiliation and party membership; still others are Socialists.

But all of us are at this moment united in the solemn conviction that in the presidential campaign of 1928, more than in previous campaigns since the Civil War, the American Negro was treated in a manner which is unfair and discouraging.

We accuse the political leaders of this campaign of permitting without protest, public and repeated assertions on the platform, in the press, and by word of mouth, that color and race constitute in themselves an imputation of guilt and crime.

It has been said, North and South, East and West, and by partisans of the leading candidates:

1. That Negro voters should not be appealed to, or their support welcomed by the advocates of just causes.

2. That colored persons should not hold public office, no matter what their character may be nor how well they do their work nor how competently they satisfy their constituents.

3. That the contact of white people and black people in government, in business, and in daily life, in common effort and co-operation, calls for explanation and apology.

4. That the honesty and integrity of party organization depend on the complete removal of all Negroes from voice and authority.

5. That the appointment of a public official is an act which concerns only white citizens, and that colored citizens should have neither voice nor consideration in such appointments.

These assertions, which sound bald and almost unbelievable when stated without embellishment, have appeared as full-paged advertisements in the public press, as the subject of leading editorials, and as displayed news stories; they have been repeated on the public platform in open debate and over the radio by both Republican and Democratic speakers, and they have been received by the nation and by the adherents of these and other parties in almost complete silence. A few persons have deprecated this gratuitous lugging in of the race problem, but for the most part, this astonishing campaign of public insult toward one-tenth of the nation has evoked no word of protest from the leading party candidates or from their official spokesmen; and from few religious ministers, Protestant or Catholic, or Jewish, and from almost no leading social reformer.

Much has been said and rightly of the danger in a republic like ours of making sincere religious belief a matter of political controversy and of diverting public attention from great questions of public policy to petty matters of private life. But, Citizens of America, bad as religious hatred and evil personal gossip are, they have not the seeds of evil and disaster that lie in continued, unlimited and unrestrained appeal to race prejudice. The emphasis of racial contempt and hatred which was made in this campaign is an appeal to the lowest and most primitive of human motives, and as long as this appeal can successfully be made, there is for this land no real peace, no sincere religion, no national unity, no social progress, even in matters far removed from racial controversy.

Do not misunderstand us: we are not asking equality where there is no equality. We are not demanding or even discussing purely social intermingling. We have not the slightest desire for intermarriage between the races. We frankly recognize that the aftermath of slavery must involve long years of poverty, crime and contempt; for all of this that the past has brought and the present gives we have paid in good temper, quiet work and unfaltering faith. But we do solemnly affirm that in a civilized land and in a Christian culture and among increasingly intelligent people, somewhere and sometime, limits must be put to race disparagement and separation and to campaigns of racial calumny which seek to set twelve million human beings outside the pale of ordinary humanity.

We believe that this nation and every part of it must come to admit that the gradual disappearance of inequalities between racial groups and the gradual softening of prejudice and hatred, is a sign of advance and not of retrogression and should be hailed as such by all decent folk and we think it monstrous to wage a political campaign in which the fading and softening of racial animosity and the increase of co-operation can be held up to the nation as a fault and not as a virtue. We do not believe that the majority of the white people whether North or South believe in the necessity or the truth of the assertions current in this campaign; but we are astonished to see the number of persons who are whipped to silence in the presence of such obvious and ancient political trickery.

You cannot set the requirements of political honesty and intelligence too high to gain our consent. We have absolutely no quarrel with standards of ability and character which will bring to public office in America the very highest type of public servant. We are more troubled over political dishonesty among black folk than you are among white. We are not seeking political domination. But, on the other hand, it is too late for us to submit to political slavery and we most earnestly protest against the unchallenged assumption that every American Negro is dishonest and incompetent and that color in itself is a crime.

It is not so much the virulence of the attack in this case. It is its subtle and complacent character and the assenting silence in which it is received. Gravely and openly these assertions are made and few care, few protest, few answer. Has not the time come when as a nation, North and South, black and white, we can stop this tragic fooling and demand, not to be sure, everything that all Negroes might wish, nor all that some white people might prefer, but a certain balance of decency and logic in the discussion of race? Can we not as a nation assert that the Constitution is the law of the land and that the 13th, 14th, 15th and 19th Amendments as well as the 18th are still valid; that it is no crime for a colored man to vote if he meets the legal requirements; that it is not a crime to appoint a colored man to office unless he is incompetent; and if he is incompetent, the crime lies in his incompetency and not in his color; that in this modern world of necessarily increasing human contact it is inevitable that persons of different race work together in private and public service; that this contact is not wrong unless the persons are unable to do their work properly or unless their helpful co-operation is proven impossible?

We are asking, therefore, in this appeal, for a public repudiation of this campaign of racial hatred. Silence and whispering in this case are worse than in matters of personal character and religion. Will white America make no protest? Will the candidates continue to remain silent? Will the Church say nothing? Is there in truth any issue in this campaign, either religious tolerance, liquor, water-power, tariff or farm relief, that touches in weight the transcendent and fundamental question of the open, loyal and unchallenged recognition of the essential humanity of twelve million Americans who happen to be dark-skinned?

R. R. MOTON, Principal of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama.
W. E. B. DU BOIS, Editor, CRISIS Magazine, New York.
JOHN HOPE, President of Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga.
MORDECAI W. JOHNSON, President, Howard University, Washington, D. C.
HARRY E. DAVIS, Civil Service Commissioner, City of Cleveland, Ohio
GEORGE C. CLEMENT, Bishop, A. M. E. Zion Church, Louisville, Kentucky.
SALLIE W. STEWART, President, National Association of Colored Women,

(*Will you please turn to page* 428)

Postscript
by W. E. B. DuBois

THE PRODIGAL SON
St. Luke, XV, 1-32.

AND He said: A certain man had two sons.

And the younger of them said to his father: "Father give me the portion of your property that is coming to me. You and brother can settle the Negro problem and uplift the race and contribute to the Church and the N. A. A. C. P. But as for me, I'm going to make money and spend it on Me." And the father divided his savings between the boys.

And not many days afterward, the younger son gathered all together and took his journey to New York where he went into business and soon was making a good income; and he became not only comfortably clothed and well-fed, but he began to waste his substance in a showy house, rich and elegant furniture, a Lincoln limousine with a chauffeur and a Packard runabout, and an expensive wife, too young to have any sense, and a host of new friends whose first business seemed to be to see which could outspend the other.

And when he was spending all he could earn on himself and his wife and his pleasures, and was tired out by hard work all day and staying up all night, there arose a mighty famine in both his body and his soul. His head ached; his heart was weak; his lungs were congested; his stomach would not digest his food. In fact he seemed to have lost his capacity to enjoy life. And he began to be in want of something which he did not have and could not seem to get.

And he went and joined himself to a citizen next door who seemed to be having a wild time. This citizen led him around to cabarets and gambling houses two or three times a week, to feed with the swine.

And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that these white and black swine ate, but somehow he could not digest mere filth, and the bad liquor and bad air made him sick. He tried to enjoy the loud and vulgar harlots but he only caught filthy diseases that made him ashamed to meet his wife. And no man there offered him anything else because they had nothing else to offer.

AND when he came to himself, he said: "What is wrong with me? My father and my brother have not near the income I have. Brother has an old Ford and father walks. They live in a small town and an old-fashioned home and neither mother nor sister ever owned a fur coat. And yet somehow they seem interested in life and satisfied. They keep well and strong. They apparently have enough and to spare of what makes Life worth living, while I perish with too much. My soul is hungry. I will arise and go to my father and will say unto him: 'Father, I have sinned against myself and before you.

" 'And I am no more worthy to be called your son. Advise me and tell me what's wrong.' "

And he arose and took the train home. But before he had opened the gate his father had seen him and ran out and gripped his hand and led him in.

And the son said unto him: "Father, I have sinned against myself and against you, and I am no more worthy to be called your son. Let me come home and work for you."

But the father said: "O come now! You're all right, Son; you've got good stuff in you. You've worked hard and built up a good business. You are young enough to learn. But never mind your troubles. You just don't feel well and you need sleep. Come in! We've got some roast pork and cabbage; come and have a good talk with me and mother. I'll send and have brother and our friends in. It's a long time since you've been home. We're powerful glad to see you."

The neighbors dropped in. Dinner was ready and the father repeated:

"For this my son was dead and he is alive again. He was lost and is found." And they began to be merry.

Now his elder son was in the field and as he came and drew nigh to the house he heard the laughing and talking.

And he called one of his friends and asked him what these things meant.

And he said unto him: "Your brother has come home and your father has roasted a young pig because he has received him safe and sound."

And he was angry and did not go in. Therefore came his father out and entreated him.

AND he answering said to his father: "You know how John has been neglecting us and going the pace. Too high-toned to visit us, too busy to write, too much of a spendthrift to give us a helping hand, and too much of a fool about women to be a man. Yet he got as much of your hard-earned savings as I did and hasn't given back a cent. I stayed at home and worked on the place and you never threw a party for me. But as soon as this son has come, who squanders his money with harlots, you make a hell of a fuss!"

And he said unto him: "Son, you are ever with me and all that I have is yours. From me you have learned to live. You have listened to my experience and have come to realize that a big city and a big house and a big car do not make happiness and that as long as most of our people are poor and ignorant, we who are better off can't succeed by forgetting them and working and spending selfishly just for ourselves. You and I, Son, working together in talk and silence, have learned the secret of real living: you can't enjoy food if you eat too much; you can't work if you don't rest; you can't get drunk and be sober; and you can't chase harlots and enjoy your wife. Above all, you can't work for yourself unless you work for others. All this, Son, which Life taught me long since, is yours. You have learned it.

"But now this poor boy is beginning to learn. He is awakening. You have never been dead like your brother.

"Don't you see, Son, that we should make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found!"

THE CAMPAIGN OF 1928

FOR the American Negro this has without doubt been the most humiliating presidential campaign through which he has passed. The agreement and accord of the two leading parties in regard to him has at last become perfect and complete.

Tentative gropings toward accord date back to 1876 when under the plea of healing the wounds of Civil War, the Federal Government decided to give up all attempt at supervising national elections. This put the nation in the humiliating position of having almost no control over the voters who elect its officials. From this compromise, we moved forward during a long period when it was the recognized function of the Republican Party to deplore disfranchisement and assert stoutly its intention to defend the rights of American Negroes in all ways. The Democratic Party, on the other hand, took a position which accepted responsibility for Negro disfranchisement and made it the declared enemy of Negro advancement.

As time went on, the indignation of Republican platforms cooled to a perfunctory declaration against the most outrageous of abuses, lynching, while the Democratic platform became silent because of the bid of Northern and Border state Democrats for Negro votes. The Republicans, however, proceeded to disfranchise Southern representatives in the party convention, and made repeated effort to transfer the control of the Republican Party in the South entirely to the hands of white men. The Democratic party, in the South by indirect and sometimes by positive action, aided and abetted these so-called Lily-White Republicans and threatened revolt if Northern Democrats treated with Negroes.

Complete understanding came in the campaign of 1928. So far as possible Hoover overthrew every Negro political leader in the South, and made statements which the South interpreted as a promise to appoint no Negroes to office. The Democrats, on the other hand, even in the North, refrained sedulously from making any bid for the Negro vote.

The result of this is that the political strategy which thoughtful Negro voters have been pursuing for sixteen years comes to naught. Their ideal was political independence, which involved breaking away from customary subserviency to the Republicans, and placing their votes at the disposition of either party, which bade fair from its record and its promises to secure them the largest increase of citizenship rights.

When, now, neither party makes any promises whatsoever, or any bid for the Negro vote; when both parties acquiesce in attacks of racial bigotry and assertions which show their utter contempt and indifference to the Negro voter, the Negro is compelled to seek a new political program.

He may as well give up immediately any thought of inducing either the Republicans or Democrats to favor any administrative action or legislation which will decrease the exploitation of Negro labor, the disfranchisement of Negro political power, or which will condemn the use of race hatred to influence and sway the ignorant proletariat and the self-satisfied snobs of the nation. With unswerving determination and careful planning, the Negro must prepare to throw his whole political influence with a Third Party.

The Negro must ask as the price of his support of such a party: (1) the enforcement of the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments, (2) Federal supervision of Federal elections, (3) the distribution of political power, based on the number of votes actually cast, and not simply on the population, (4) the socialization of wealth and income, so as to protect the interests of the poor laborer against the political power of the rich investor.

Two incidents in this campaign give hope of success for this new political alignment. The first is the number of other groups who find themselves politically homeless: the women, the liberal white South, organized Labor, the Pacifists, and the Farmers are all politically dressed up with nowhere to go. They cannot even get a chance to vote against the thing they fear and hate. The second note of encouragement which comes is the unity of opinion shown by the Appeal to America which was sent out during the campaign. Never before in the history of the United States have American Negro leaders shown so great uniformity on matters fundamental to their civilization and advance. Starting with this and leaving the Valley of Humiliation behind us, let us climb forward to real and definite political power for twelve million Americans of Negro descent.

SEGREGATION

VERY slowly but with unexpected success, the fight against governmental segregation in the departments at Washington has reached a stage where a record of achievement can be made and a new alignment of forces for the future planned.

Beginning with the administration of Woodrow Wilson, and recurring under President Harding, efforts were made to segregate Negro clerks in Washington as follows:

1. To establish separate Negro sections.
2. To segregate clerks in the same sections in different rooms.
3. To give separate service in cafeterias, lockers and restrooms.
4. To curtail the appointment of Negro clerks.

As a result of 15 years recurring opposition on the part of the National Office of the N. A. A. C. P. and its branch in Washington, with the cooperation of other branches, and of other organizations, segregation has stopped as follows:

1. No new segregated sections have been established.
2. Segregation in rooms by race has practically disappeared, the few remaining instances being not easily proven cases.
3. The discrimination in cafeterias, except in two cases, has been absolutely repudiated by the heads of departments over their own signature.

There remains, therefore, three things to be done:

1. Clerks who are discriminated against in the future must be ready and willing to test the legality of the discrimination.
2. Legal action must be taken against two cafeterias, one of which is in the Congressional Library, where deliberate and illegal discrimination is well-known.
3. Effort must be made to see how far clerks of Negro descent are being kept from appointment and from promotion simply because of color.

The N. A. A. C. P. will now address itself to these last two matters.

THE ELECTION

THE Happy Warrior tried to trade the 18th Amendment for the 14th and succeeded in smashing the Solid South and laying its rotten boroughs of wholesale disfranchisement and cheating open to the nation. Silence on fundamental human rights of black folk even when accompanied by promises of free blankets to Indians and "boloney" for newsboys only availed to give Alfred Smith the most crushing defeat in American history.

But liberal America has no cause for rejoicing. Smith was beaten by Southern and Western provincialism, religious bigotry, moral puritanism and snobbishness; and Big Business was elected to rule the United States by a mandate which limits Wall Street only by the blue sky. Least of all have black folk a chance even for a weary smile. The Lily Whites and the Ku Klux Klan are the political allies of

(*Will you please turn to page* 427)

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Robert R. Moton, *Principal* William H. Carter, *Treasurer*

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALABAMA

A Novelty in Blue

(*Continued from page* 404)

"And that's the whole secret of my success in putting one over on you to-night," she concluded abruptly.

III

MISS VIRGINIA LEE had put on her brown make-up again. The orchestra was pumping out the introduction to *The Deceitful Blues.*

"Hey, there!" the man with the red hair interrupted again, "you ain't going to sing without your wig, are you?"

"Oh, no!" Miss Virginia Lee laughed heartily. "I couldn't very well do that. I couldn't be a high-brown baby with golden hair, could I?" And she moved toward the wings, all the while snapping her fingers to the property man for her wig. But no wig came. So she darted behind the scenes. Reappearing with bewildering alacrity, the singer now arrayed in the full regalia of the first triumph, plunged into *The Deceitful Blues.* She finished. The audience ripped up the air with applause. Again and again she sang. Again and again the house shook with applause. And when she could sing no more, she bowed and smiled and slipped into the wings. But the audience—some clapping hands, some whistling, some stamping the floor violently—demanded an encore. So, for the last time, the little brown singer with one hand clutched over her heart and the other tugging nervously at the ends of a gorgeous red shawl which almost covered her face, sallied forth and gasped one of those naive little please-won't-you-let-me-off speeches. Then running from the stage by way of a flight of steps that carried her into the audience, she dashed up the aisle and made her final exit through the front door of the theater. Now what became of her when she reached the street, the audience never knew. Some thought she ran to the street stage entrance and fled back stage again. Other swore she leaped into a waiting roadster manned by a young colored chauffeur and sped away. The local newspapers, hardest of all to hoax, fell in line, too, and carried long facetious stories of the affair, one going so far as to head its report: "DUSKY" BLUES SINGER PROVES BLONDE; HALTS WALKOUT OF IRATE AUDIENCE. But no one ever scented the real denouement of the plot. For the secret that long after the audience went home that night, John Ketchem and the man with the red hair and all the others who'd threatened to walk out with him (save the man with the long mustache, and the man who'd shouted: "Folks, do you know that's a darkey

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gal?") sat back stage chuckling and congratulating one another for the success of *A Novelty in Blue,* never got out.

"Well, fellows," John Ketchem finally concluded, "you sure put over your part of the act with a bang. And you, Miss Virginia Lee, did the cleverest bit of impersonating I've ever seen. And I want to congratulate you again. . . . That audience went home baffled tonight. You gave 'em something to wonder about, argue about. And I bet it'll keep 'em coming back to the Lyric for a long time, too. And nobody'll ever know a real honest-to-goodness darkey actually sang those songs for you tonight, either—But say! by golly, couldn't that gal Magnolia sing! And couldn't she shake a wicked hoof!"

N.A.A.C.P. Battle Front

(*Continued from page* 406)

N. A. A. C. P. called upon them to do so.

That the exclusion of Miss Catchings should have taken place at all was an outrage. That no white person in all New York had the courage or common decency to protest against it, is something in the nature of a calamity. It shows once again that Negroes, if they are to make themselves felt, if they are not to lose the rights they precariously hold, must function as a group. They must realize that such an exclusion as that of Miss Catchings, is not a mere individual case. It represents the rise, in its most menacing and ugly form, of the slavery idea, the southern determination to stigmatize as inferior any Negro, man or woman regardless of ability, service and record of accomplishment, who desires to pursue the path of opportunity freely open to whites.

The N. A. A. C. P. is not yet through with the case of Miss Gladys L. Catchings and the bigots who rule the Sloane Maternity Hospital and the Presbyterian Hospital ("Without Regard to Race, Creed or Color"). It will continue to agitate this case until all hope of redress is exhausted or until justice is done Miss Catchings and all Negro doctors and nurses entitled to opportunity to continue their education and increase their capacity for public service. H. J. S.

SOME WHO PROTESTED

SOME colored people did vigorously protest at the exclusion of Miss Catchings from the special course in Sloane Maternity Hospital. Here are extracts from their letters, copies of which they sent to the N. A. A. C. P.:

Mr. Caspar Holstein: "This act of discrimination against Miss Catchings has invoked my sense of justice and fair play, and as an American Negro, a fact which I am proud to acknowledge, and a contributor to the Presbyterian Hospital Fund, I am forced to protest in her behalf. On the portals of the Presbyterian Hospital is an inscription which reads: 'Regardless of Race, Color or Creed'. It was the realization of the dire need of an institution founded on such a great principle that prompted me to contribute to the Fund, and it would reflect on my manhood, I feel, to allow a departure from this noble principle to go unchallenged."

Dr. T. W. Granady: "Only a few days ago the daily papers throughout the country carried articles deploring the fact that our country had the highest death rate in that branch of work in which Miss Catchings wanted to improve herself; then surely your honorable body could not condone such actions on the part of a subordinate department over which you have control. As a Negro who gave my contribution to the building fund of the Medical Center, firmly believing in the principle of service to humanity without regard to race, creed or color, then announced, I strongly protest against this action on the part of Sloane Hospital."

Eugene McIntosh, proprietor Harlem Employment Agency: "May I not as a colored man and contributor to the Building Fund of the Medical Center, ask whether the treatment accorded Miss Catchings, or discrimination on account of race, creed or color, represents the policy of the Hospital? Of the greatest importance in connection with this matter as I see it, and what was stressed by the Building Fund Committee in soliciting contributions, is the perpetuation in the Medical Center, not repression, of that Godly spirit and principle, 'without regard to race, creed or color' so nobly advanced by the Founder of the Presbyterian Hospital."

John W. Duncan of Duncan Brothers, Funeral Home: "We feel that we, as donors, have a perfect right to call this matter to your attention and we further state that unless something is done on your part to correct this injustice, you can erase our name from your list of future donors and we will do our utmost to persuade other business and professional men of our race to do likewise."

The Little Page

(*Continued from page* 407)

to him seemed a vast dark unpoliced wilderness. The heap of him under the bedding looked pitiably small, surprisingly tiny for a boy of nine.

"Go to sleep again," Mother Gardner said.

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President.

"I haven't been asleep attall."

"What are you watching for?" asked Mother Gardner still trying to hold to her resolve of keeping Denny's presents till later.

"I stay awake to look for Santa Claus."

"I said he wouldn't come," Mother Gardner declared firmly.

"You said you wouldn't come. But I've known him longer than you. Some sa'd it was nobody but your mother and father. But I never had any mother and father that I know of. So it wasn't them. But every Christmas just as regular at the orphanage I got something. Some said it was Santa Claus. Some said—— Well, I just thought I'd give Santa Claus a chance."

Mother Gardner turned out the light. The eyes were again gleaming in the darkness.

"Gee!" Denny broke out with a surging sob. "I wish Reuben was here. We'd have some time!"

"Reuben," began Mother Gardner, "is about seventeen now. He——"

"Let him rummage!" She recalled his hearty request.

"In the morning, Denny, open the same little closet door. You'll find some little gifts. You may play with the things my grandson Reuben left too. Good night." And she covered the little heap carefully and made a New Year resolve that Christmas Eve night. She was not going to try to make Reuben of Denny.

A LITTLE card came through the mail
That made my heart so merry!
A Christmas card with silver stars
And crimson holly berry!

Along the Color Line

(*Continued from page* 414)

Horstead Principal of Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone.

¶ Miss Rebecca Davis of Nashville, Tennessee, the Jeanes Fund expert for Liberia, has arrived in London en route to Monrovia. She is a graduate of the A. and I. College, Nashvile, and of Western Reserve University.

¶ The late G. D. Agbebi founded two memorial scholarships for competition at Kings College, Lagos. They are in memory of his wife and are for training candidates for the ministry or for teaching.

¶ Dr. Caulcrick of Lagos, Nigeria, has been deprived of his membership in the Legislative Council because of a political offense. In this way, the Government rids itself of opposition in a legislative council which has already an appointed official majority.

¶ Takoradi harbor, on the Gold

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Coast, will be opened for traffic this month.

¶ A new Holland-West African passenger service between Amsterdam and West Africa was inaugurated in November. The "Grotius," formerly in the East Indian trade, was the first boat on the new line and two new turbine-driven ships will follow.

¶ Sir Graeme Thompson, the newly appointed Governor of Nigeria, is dangerously ill, and is returning to England.

SOUTH AFRICA

¶ Mr. M. G. Apthorp has been appointed Chief Native Commissioner of Cape Colony with headquarters at King William's Town. T. W. C. Norton has been given a similar position for Natal.

¶ The Rhodesian and General Asbestos Corporation of Rhodesia, South Africa, reports a profit of $1,300,000 for the last twelve months. This company represents white English capital invested in Rhodesia.

¶ The Sub Nigel, a mining company of Johannesburg, South Africa, has a capital of $3,750,000, owns over 4,000 mining claims, and made a profit for the year amounting to $2,600,000 for the year. These two companies illustrate what Africa means to England in 1928.

¶ The Nationalist Congresses of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal, have accepted the declaration of the imperial Conference of 1926, with expressions of independence and of the right to leave the British Empire whenever they may wish.

¶ Miss Gertrude C. Thomson, an English expert, has joined the Frobenius Expedition, to study the ruins at Great Zimbabwe in Southern Rhodesia.

¶ The Honorable Srinvasa Sastri, Agent General for India in South Africa, was not only openly insulted at a public meeting at Klerksdorp by hoodlums, but by Pirow, a member of the legislature, who made a bitter speech against "coolies" in South Africa and the giving of a dinner in honor of this distinguished Indian.

¶ Mr. Sastri is about to leave South Africa and declares that in spite of insult and oppression "the colored people can not long be kept down".

PORTUGUESE AFRICA

¶ After five and a half years of negotiation, the Transvaal-Mozambique Convention between South Africa and Portugal has been signed. The former convention in 1919 lapsed in 1923. The new convention curtails the number of natives who can be recruited in Mozambique for the South African

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mines and lays down the principle that Mozambique should not continue to export its labor but only the produce of the labor.

¶ A bridge connecting the Loanda road with the Dande has been finished in Portuguese Angola.

¶ Portuguese Angola was put under the direction of V. Ferreria in 1926. He has improved the financial situation and extended the railroad to the Belgian Congo.

The Far Horizon

(*Continued from page* 415)

Customs department, who prosecuted, said that Clarke had been a seaman on the steamer City of Khios, but had deserted from the vessel at Adelaide. Upon his arrival in Melbourne he had been subjected to a dictation test of 50 words in the German language, but had failed to pass.

Speaking correct English, Clarke said: "I left my ship because my life was in danger if I remained on board. I am aware of the law of the Commonwealth of Australia, and I know that I cannot stay here."

Pending the arrival of a ship on which he will be deported, Clarke was sentenced to imprisonment for six months.

Do you get that? Imprisoned for six months for the crime of putting foot on the British Empire and yet he is a British subject.

A PHILADELPHIA HOSPITAL

THE Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* says:

Those estimable Philadelphians, of both races, who have waged the campaign for Mercy Hospital so successfully as to roll up pledges of more than $300,000, are to be congratulated on achieving a result more than fifty per cent beyond the goal they had set for their effort. The funds will supply a nursing home, and other equipment, which should enable this fine institution to enlarge its work for the Negro population, and become the centre of a widely extended development of hospital work for the race.

There are probably 175,000 of Negro blood in Philadelphia, and certainly in the Metropolitan District, there are not less than 250,000. Among this great body there are skilled mechanics of all kinds, lawyers, teachers and physicians, and a constantly growing percentage of men and women of culture and aspiration. It is wise counsel and wise leadership for Negroes to develop their own community life, their own hospitals, and theatres, and other social and welfare enterprises, just as they have successfully developed and maintain their own churches. The greatest Negro need is intelligent leadership and a larger number of trained individuals for special activities. Mercy Hospital is something to be proud of as an institution capable not only of great human service, but of ultimate large participation in the furtherance of Negro progress in Philadelphia.

To this the Philadelphia *Tribune*,

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a colored paper, answers:

The campaign just ended for the Nurses' Home in connection with Mercy Hospital gives the lie to certain age-old assertions. In the beginning, several of those who are supposed to know, blantantly stated that white people would have to contribute practically all of the money. Well, they didn't! Colored people subscribed almost dollar for dollar. And they began with a $50,000 handicap. The facts show that colored people will and do support worthy institutions.

Most people of the dominant group have the idea that Negroes are paupers. Any race that piles up $150,000 for an institution that force of circumstances make them accept is not a lazy, shiftless and good-for-nothing race.

As a matter of fact, white citizens should have contributed every dime of the money. Negroes are not primarily responsible for the existence of Mercy or Douglass Hospitals. The Philadelphia General Hospital, a city owned institution, does not train Negro nurses nor Negro physicians. Even the great denominational hospitals, founded as it were on the ideals of Jesus Christ, slam their doors in the faces of appealing black men and women. The whole damnable system is the creature of the white man's making. He should, therefore, pay for it. But he shirks his duty and makes believe that he is being philanthropic when he is not even doing his duty.

These institutions are essential to Negroes. They must support them. It is an unfair burden that they are forced to carry. And nobly do they go upward with the load strapped tightly to their backs.

Speaking editorially, *The Bulletin* states that because Negroes subscribed so generously to the fund for the Mercy Hospital Nurses' Home it indicates that they want segregated institutions. *The Bulletin's* conclusion is wrong, because it didn't take all the facts into consideration. If a highwayman sticks a gun in your stomach and demands your purse and you give it to him it certainly does not mean that you want him to have it. When white people close the doors of every hospital to Negro nurses and physicians there isn't anything left for them to do but establish hospitals of their own. It certainly does not prove that they want to be segregated. If equal opportunity were accorded Negro nurses and Physicians and Negroes wanted to establish hospitals of their own, then the *Bulletin's* conclusion would be correct. *The Tribune* believes that Negroes should have hospitals owned and operated by themselves just like any other religious, fraternal or racial group. Other groups have their hospitals but they are not barred from public institutions. The Catholics, Presbyterians and Jews have their hospitals, but members of their groups are not denied the opportunity of using the great public institutions.

CRIME

ALL too often the crime of Negroes is studied and explained as something "racial" or due to peculiar historical facts. The Philadelphia *Daily News* has this remark:

Speakers at a New York social welfare meeting attributed crime among Negroes to the same causes as provoke it among other peoples—namely, to poverty and lack of parental control of children.

This is correct. When Judge Lewis recently insulted the Negro he should have attacked, instead, the economic conditions under which the Negro citizens of this country suffer. They are miserably paid and as miserably housed. They are discriminated against almost everywhere in industry. They are discriminated against almost everywhere educationally.

In such circumstances the wonder is that they are as law-abiding and progressive as they are. Certainly, since it is the whites who keep the Negro in a subject position it does not become the whites to blame the colored people for the results.

Postscript

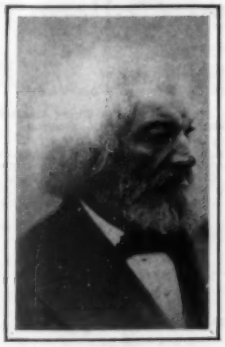
(*Continued from page* 418)

Herbert Hoover and our only hope lies in the smashed and riven "white primary" of the lower South and the faint but heartening promise of the Socialist Third Party.

Meantime, we congratulate Oscar DePriest, the first Negro Congressman from the North and the first Negro in Congress for a generation. He represents a vicious political machine, but he cannot be nearly as bad as the white men who run that machine and have been elected to rule Chicago. Moreover, unless Tammany, Thompson and Vare give us a political chance, who will? Not Hoover. Not Smith.

FLORIDA

ONE of the interesting things in the matter of Florida relief is the way in which colored people have responded to the appeal of Mrs. Bethune. She sends out a list of contributions. Among them we note, first of all, that the Negro population of Jacksonville contributed $3,000 in cash and sixty-five boxes of clothes. The Negro Department of the Travelers' Aid Society helped the Red Cross furnish six hundred meals and assist three hundred refugees to move to places of safety. Outside the state came other items of help: The Illinois Good-Will Association, $345; Citizens and Friends of Hot Springs, Virginia, $217; Second Baptist Church, Detroit, $100; Faculty and Students of Gammon Seminary, $37; Tabernacle Baptist Church, Detroit, $31; Carter Memorial Church, France, California, $20; Willing Workers, Detroit, $25;



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An Appeal

(*Continued from page* 416)

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State of New York, } ss.:
County of New York, }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Pierce McN. Thompson, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the business manager of THE CRISIS and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor and business manager are:

Publisher—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

Editor—W. E. Burghardt DuBois, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

Managing Editor—W. E. Burghardt DuBois, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

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2. That the owners are: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a corporation with no stock.

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3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

PIERCE McN. THOMPSON,
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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of September, 1928.

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Index to Advertisers

A. & T. College of North Carolina.. 425
Allen University 425
Ancrum School of Music..... 422
Associated Publishers, Inc..... 427
Atlanta School of Social Work, Inc.. 424
Atlanta University (2)..... 419
Bagley, Caroline 427
Bethel Mfg. Co..... 430
Bethune-Cookman College 423
Bishop College 423
Burns, Carl 429
Burrell Memorial Hospital..... 428
Cardinal Gibbons Institute..... 424
Cheyney Training School for Teachers 425
Downingtown I. & A. School..... 428
Edward Waters College..... 423
Fisk University 423
Florida N. & C. Institute..... 424
Frances E. W. Harper Girls' Dormitories 425
Hampton Institute 421
Hartshorn Memorial College 423
Haven Teachers College..... 428
Hill, Leslie Pinckney..... 400
Hotel Bledsoe 430
Howard University 419
Houston, Drusilla Dunjee..... 427
Johnson C. Smith University..... 422
Knoxville College 419
Lane College 428
Lincoln School for Nurses..... 428
Lincoln University 422
Livingstone College 424
Lyons, S. D..... 430
Meharry Medical College..... 421
Morehouse College 419
Morgan College 424
Morristown N. & I. College..... 428
Mullowney, Dr. John J..... 427
National Benefit Life Ins. Co..... 426
N. Y. Institute of Photography..... 430
N. Y. Recording Laboratories Inside Back Cover
North Carolina College for Negroes. 419
Paine College 428
Plaza Hotel 430
Polk, R. L., & Co..... 429
Poro College 429
Ray's Circular Letter Co..... 429
Reginald & Hayward..... 425
Rust College 424
St. Mary's School..... 419
Shaw University 422
Simmons University 424
Southern Aid Society of Va., Inc. Inside Front Cover
State A. & M. College, S. C..... 419
Stenographers' Institute 425
Talladega College (2).....419 & 420
Tuskegee N. & I. Institute..... 421
Victory Life Insurance Co..... 399
Virginia N. & I. Institute..... 423
Virginia Union University..... 422
Mme. C. J. Walker Mfg. Co., Inc. Back Cover
Watchman Industrial School..... 425
Wetmore, Judson D..... 429
Wilberforce University 425
Wiley College 428
Y. M. C. A. Wabash Ave. Branch, Chicago 430

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